

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 5, wherein the directory number is a part of the personal identification number.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 5, wherein the address code includes at least one of a Media Access Control address to the IP phone, an IP address to the IP phone, and set type of the IP phone.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 5, wherein step (c) is repeated in the event that the personal identification number fails authentication in step (d).
5. (Currently Amended) A method for an IP phone switch to register an IP phone over an network, the IP phone having an unique address code within the network, comprising the steps of
 - (a) associating a personal identification number with a directory number at the IP phone switch;
 - (b) establishing communications between the IP phone and the IP phone switch;

(c) receiving the address code of the IP phone and the personal identification number from the IP phone;

(d) authenticating the personal identification number;

(e) associating the directory number with the address code for routing and switching call traffic to and from the IP phone,

(f) wherein step (c) is repeated in the event that the personal identification number fails authentication in step (d).; and

(g) The method of claim 4, further comprising a step to determine determining if step (d) has been repeated in excess a predetermined number of consecutive times due to the access code failing the personal identification number failing authentication and response sending a lock set command to the IP phone.

6. (Currently Amended) An IP phone switch, comprising

a database having personal identification numbers associated directory numbers;

a communications system for establishing communications between IP phones and the IP phone switch; and

an OAM for associating directory number with address codes of IP phones for routing and switching call traffic to and from the IP phones;

wherein, after communications is established between an IP phone and the IP phone switch, an address code and a personal identification number is ~~send~~sent from the IP phone to the IP phone switch for